

Remarks and Arguments

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 remain in this application. Claims 1 and 17 have been amended. Support for the amendment of claims 1 and 17 can be found, for example, in paragraphs [0009], [0018], and [0021] of the specification as well as the Abstract and FIGS. 1 and 3.

1. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 and 10-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by US Patent 3,432,798 (Brishka). According to the Examiner, "Brishka, fig. 1, discloses a coaxial connector comprising: a first section 48, 60 comprising: a body 60 comprising: a tubular portion disposed about a first axis, the tubular portion having an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface defining a first bore disposed about the first axis, and an angled portion 48 having an inner surface defining a second bore disposed about a second axis, the second axis intersecting the first axis . . ." (Office Action, page 2).

Applicants submit that this rejection is traversed in view of amended claims 1 and 17. In contrast to amended claim 1, Brishka does not teach or suggest "A coaxial connector comprising: a first section comprising: a unitary body comprising a tubular portion disposed about a first axis, the tubular portion having an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface defining a first bore disposed about the first axis, and an angled portion having an inner surface defining a second bore disposed about a second axis, the second axis intersecting the first axis" Brishka also does not teach or suggest recitation from amended claim 17 similarly reciting "a unitary body." To the contrary, the figure shown in Brishka shows a connector having at least 4 sections none of which is a unitary body member meeting all of the recitation of amended claims 1 and 17.

Moreover, Brishka teaches away from amended claims 1 and 17 for at least the reason that the reference achieves its stated objective of "employing novel means to insure a constant inner to outer conductor distance ratio at all points around the 90° bend" by "filling the cavity around the bend with small conductive metallic particles."

(Brishka, col. 1, ll. 44-50). Brishka further teaches that these metallic particles are to be "tightly packed" (*id.*, col. 2, l. 33) and that this tight packing of metallic particles is achieved by providing "sleeve 48 [that] is also internally threaded at its other end 52 to receive a closure plug 54, closing the cavity, between the sleeve 48 and the insulation 14." (*Id.*, col. 2, ll. 29-32). Accordingly, modifying the teachings of Brishka et al. to provide a unitary body would make the reference unsatisfactory for its intended purpose for at least the reason that its stated objective of providing tightly packed metallic particles would be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve without the presence of a removable closure plug from which metallic particles could be added.

Because independent claims 1 and 17 are patentable over Brishka et al., applicants submit that all dependent claims are also patentable over Brishka et al.

2. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brishka in view of US 4,881,912 (Thommen et al.). According to the Examiner, with regard to claim 8, "Brishka discloses all the limitations except a conical guide disposed within the tubular shell and contacting the second inner terminal. Thommen et al., fig. 1, discloses a conical guide (at the second end 28C of conductor pin) disposed within a tubular shell and contacting the second inner terminal. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide Brishka's connector with Thommen's et al. conical guide disposed within the tubular shell to provide proper navigation for connected external terminal." (Office Action page 6). The Examiner further stated that, with regard to claim 9, "Brishka discloses all the limitation except the first inner terminal comprises a recess adapted to receive a first end of the second inner terminal. Thommen et al., fig. 1, discloses inner terminal 28 comprises a recess 28B adapted to receive a first end of the second inner terminal. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide Brishka's inner terminal with Thommen's et al. recess adapted to receive a first end of the second inner terminal to provide proper connection between first and second inner terminals." (Office Action, page 6).

Applicants submit that this rejection is traversed for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional reason that a person having ordinary skill in the

art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Thommen et al. with the teachings of Brishka in order to obtain the invention recited in either claims 8 or 9. In particular, a person having ordinary skill in the art would not look to Thommen et al. to modify the teachings of Brishka for at least the reason that Brishka teaches away from connectors in which two straight contacts are soldered together (Brishka, col. 1, ll. 30-40) whereas Thommen et al. teaches a connector having straight contacts that are soldered together (Thommen et al., col. 2, ll. 50-54). In addition, Brishka teaches that a constant inner to outer conductor distance ratio around a 90° bend must be maintained at all times.

The Examiner has rejected claims 18 and 19 under 35.U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brishka in view of US 6,283,790 (Idehara et al.). According to the Examiner, "Brishka discloses all the limitations except no dielectric material surrounds the second end of the second inner terminal. Idehara et al., fig. 16, discloses no dielectric material surrounds the second end 25c of the second inner terminal. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to implement Idehara's et al. design with no dielectric material surrounds the second end of the second inner terminal for Briska's connector to make the structure simpler."

Applicants submit that this rejection is traversed for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional reason that a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Idehara et al. with the teachings of Brishka in order to obtain the invention recited in claims 18 and 19. In particular, a person having ordinary skill in the art would not modify Brishka by removing dielectric material around contact of Brishka for at least the reason that Brishka explicitly teaches that insulative material should be present in the contact area (see, e.g., Brishka col. 2, ll. 13-17).

3. Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims 1-19 and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.

Application No. 10/572,198
Response Date: 12/13/2007
Office Action Date: 9/13/2007

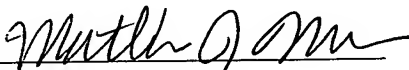
Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Matthew J. Mason at (607) 974-9993.

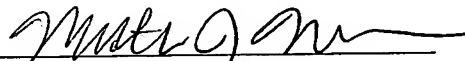
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 13, 2007


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Matthew J. Mason